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MAY 24 2004

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To: Ex Fastovsky Fax No. 703-872-9306
From: Peter Nieves DATE: 5/24/04
RE: 09/996,183
Pages: 8 INCLUDING COVER SHEET

Please contact us at (603) 668-1400 and ask for _____
if there is a problem with this transmission.

REMARKS:

(1) Preliminary Amendment (2 pgs)

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MAY 24 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Appln. Of: Richard C. Abbott, *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/996,183
Filed: November 28, 2001
For: RESISTIVE HEATERS AND USES THEREOF
Group Art Unit: 3742
Examiner: Leonid M. Fastovsky DOCKET: THERMO.1003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this first response. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this first response, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account No. 08-1391.

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